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## **13 Jurisdictions Receive Grants to Increase Efficiency in Posting Ex Parte and Protective Orders**

### **Funds Will Help Law Enforcement Units Move Quickly to Protect Vulnerable Residents**

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention has announced grants totaling \$196,333 to help protect victims of domestic violence, under the state's Domestic Violence Unit Program (DVUP). It allows local sheriffs and police departments to create specialized units for service of ex partes and protective orders and update and maintain their domestic violence databases.

Protective orders are a key part of efforts to protect victims of domestic violence. If a court commissioner finds that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a respondent has abused a person eligible for relief, the commissioner may issue a protective order. A protective order is a court order, similar to a restraining order in other states, that provides a domestic violence victim with certain forms of relief. A temporary protective order can be issued "*ex parte*," which means that the respondent is not present in court. A victim can enforce the order by alerting law enforcement and/or the courts of a violation.

The goal of this program is to reduce and/or minimize time between the issuance of *ex partes* and protective orders and their entry into law enforcement data bases. Once that process is complete, police have the legal authority to block one individual from harassing or even harming another. These resources enhance existing service efforts and meet court guidelines for efficiency and promptness.

Grant funds requested through this application are limited to programs directly related to the service and data entry of protective orders and/or *ex partes*. Funding supports efforts to respond 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Funds must be used on services that are directly related to protective order operations, (i.e., salaries and overtime). The funds must supplement existing data entry and service for *ex parte* and protective orders and may not underwrite other existing programs or service.

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*EDITORS: a list of the jurisdictions receiving these awards, and the amount for each, is attached.*

*GOCCCP is on social media. You can find us on <http://www.twitter.com/goccp> and on Facebook as [goccpmd](#).*

**Maryland Domestic Violence Unit Program (DVUP) Awards  
FY2014**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Anne Arundel	\$23,000.00
Baltimore City	\$38,326.00
Baltimore Co. Sheriff	\$6,196.00
Baltimore Co. Police	\$26,132.00
Carroll	\$7,962.00
Charles	\$3,000.00
Dorchester	\$3,000.00
Frederick Co. Sheriff	\$14,957.00
Hagerstown Police	\$11,666.00
Howard	\$9,932.00
Kent	\$2,657.00
Montgomery	\$24,975.00
Wicomico	\$24,530.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196,333.00</b>

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